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PATENT

Docket No.: 1232-4563

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Yasuo Okutani and Masayuki Yamada

Serial No. : 09/386,052 Group Art Unit : 2741

Filed : August 30, 1999 Examiner : TBA

For : *SPEECH SYNTHESIZING APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND
STORAGE MEDIUM THEREFOR*

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

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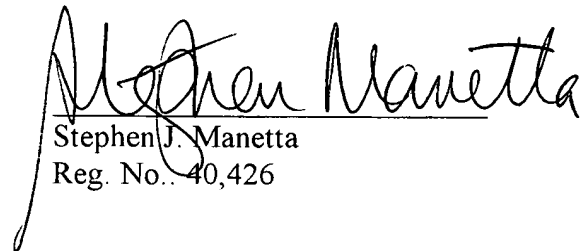
Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed, may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office (the European Patent Office) in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of each reference cited in the European Search Report, as well as a copy of the European Search Report (for European Application 99 30 6925) is enclosed herewith.

While Applicant believes no Fee is due at this time, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500. Order No. 1232-4563. A
DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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March 15, 2001

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